

CHAPTER XI FUTURE ACTIONS

Following is a summary of (1) the next major steps in alternatives formulation for the SLWRI, (2) study and project schedule, and (3) related issues.

ALTERNATIVES FORMULATION

The next major steps in the SLWRI will be to better define the initial alternatives and formulate a set of alternative plans for detailed development in the remainder of the feasibility study. From the alternative plans, one plan will be selected for display in the draft and final feasibility reports as the Selected Plan. Other important future actions include the following:

- Completing environmental baseline studies.
- Completing hydrologic, hydraulic, temperature, and related modeling studies, and economic evaluations.
- Identifying potential impacts and mitigation features of the alternative plans.
- Preparing a Plan Formulation Report describing the alternative plans.

Developing a tentatively selected plan from the alternative plans.

- Completing designs and cost estimates, cost allocation studies, and defining the requirements for non-Federal participation in the plan.
- Completing environmental compliance investigations.
- Preparing and completing an Integrated Feasibility Report (Federal decision document and NEPA/CEQA compliance).

SCHEDULE

Schedules showing estimated major actions to complete the feasibility study and future milestones leading to project implementation are shown in **Figures XI-1 and XI-2** (end of chapter), respectively. A Plan Formulation Report focusing on alternative plans and environmental compliance issues is scheduled for mid-2005. A draft Integrated Feasibility Report, including a Federal Decision Document and an EIS/EIR, is scheduled for release to the public and other Federal agencies for review in early 2007. The final report is scheduled to be provided for Washington-level review through Reclamation in mid- to late 2007. Assuming authorization by Congress in 2008, followed by detailed project designs beginning in 2008, construction could be initiated in 2009 or more likely 2010. The initial phase of construction would include acquiring real estate, continuing detailed design work, acquiring necessary permits, and performing minor relocations. The construction period would likely range from 4 to 6 years, depending on the selected plan.

INVESTIGATION PROCESS FACTORS

As the SLWRI progresses toward project implementation, issues will evolve that need to be addressed and resolved. Many of these issues or concerns will become better defined and more appropriate for resolution once the alternative plans, and later the tentatively selected plan, are defined. Currently, however, at least three areas will need to be addressed early in the next phase of the SLWRI: State of California active study involvement, relationship to CALFED and other programs and projects, and other requirements of local cooperation.

State of California Active Study Involvement

California DWR is the non-Federal sponsor for the SLWRI. However, as mentioned in **Chapter III**, California Public Resources Code 5093.542(c) restricts State involvement in the study. The code is as follows:

Except for participation by the Department of Water Resources in studies involving the technical and economic feasibility of enlargement of Shasta Dam, no department or agency of the state shall assist or cooperate with, whether by loan, grant, license, or otherwise, any agency of the federal, state or local government in the planning or construction of any dam, reservoir, diversion, or impoundment facility that could have an adverse effect on the free-flowing condition of the McCloud River, or on its wild trout fishery.

Because of this code, DWR's involvement in the SLWRI has been limited primarily to coordination and participation in study management team activities. However, for the SLWRI to effectively move forward, DWR and other constituents within the State need to take a more active role in future studies. This is especially the case for accomplishing required studies associated with compliance with CEQA. Also, DWR or other State entities will likely need to assume the role of non-Federal sponsor (see below) in implementing potential project purposes, such as anadromous fish restoration, water supply reliability to possible increments allocated to the SWP, or ecosystem restoration.

It is believed that none of the five initial alternatives recommended for further consideration as candidate plans in **Chapter VIII** would have significant adverse effects on the free-flowing conditions of the McCloud River or on its wild trout fishery. Active State support in the SLWRI is needed not only to confirm this finding and help better define the limited impacts to the McCloud River, but to identify and resolve possible effects on other State resources as well.

Relationship to CALFED and Other Programs and Projects

As mentioned, the SLWRI is being conducted following direction contained in Public Law 96-375, which was specific to Shasta Dam and Reservoir. The study is following established Federal planning principles and practices, which require defining water resources and related problems and needs to be addressed, establishing planning objectives and criteria, defining alternatives to address the objectives consistent with the study criteria, and selecting, if appropriate, a plan for implementation when there is a Federal interest. For the SLWRI, a specific set of planning objectives has been developed (see **Chapter V**) to address identified water resources problems and needs (see **Chapter IV**). The ability of potential CALFED or

other project or program elements to address these study objectives is a part of the planning process and contained in **Chapter VI**. The influence of detailed alternative plans, which will be developed in the next phase of the planning process for the SLWRI, on the goals and objectives of the CALFED program defined in the 2000 CALFED ROD will be included in the draft and final feasibility report. A summary of these potential influences resulting from enlarging Shasta Dam and Reservoir is contained in **Chapter IX**.

Other Requirements of Local Cooperation

Currently, two likely purposes exist for a project resulting from the SLWRI: ecosystem restoration, which includes anadromous fish survival, and water supply reliability. However, incidental benefits would occur to flood control and hydropower; without specifically added features to enhance these resource opportunities, they would not warrant separate purposes or modification of existing Federal responsibilities. For each of the potential purposes, a non-Federal sponsor must be identified that is willing to share in the cost for the purpose and, in the case of any ecosystem restoration features upstream from Shasta Lake or downstream from Keswick Dam, willing to operate and maintain the completed project elements. Strong support has been expressed for the SLWRI by representatives from contractors to the CVP, SWP, and other water supply interests. In addition, much interest has been identified for implementing ecosystem restoration features consistent with those included in concept plan CO-5. Identifying specific non-Federal sponsoring interests for these purposes will be an important factor in future study efforts.

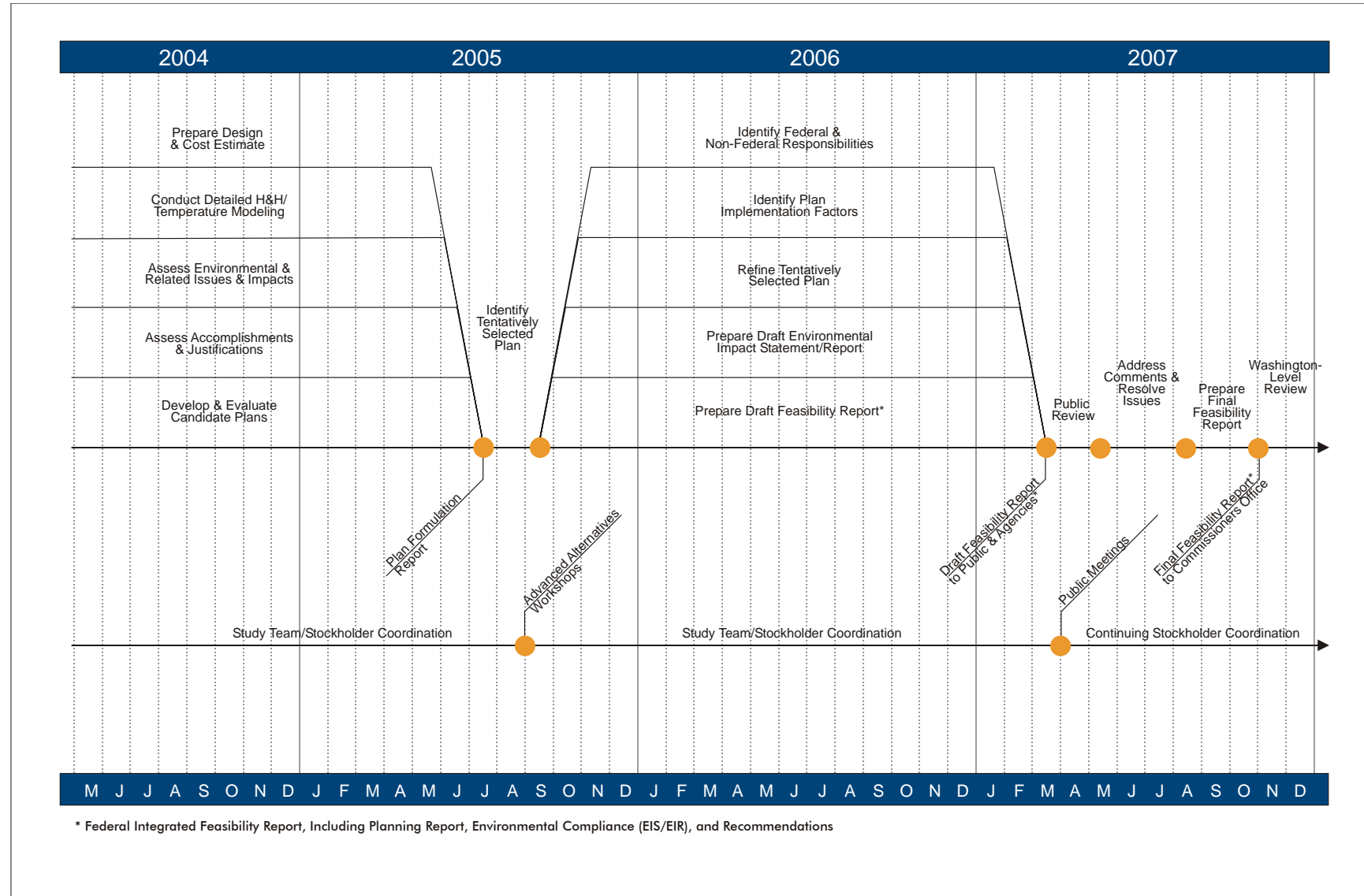


Figure XI-1 – Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation schedule.

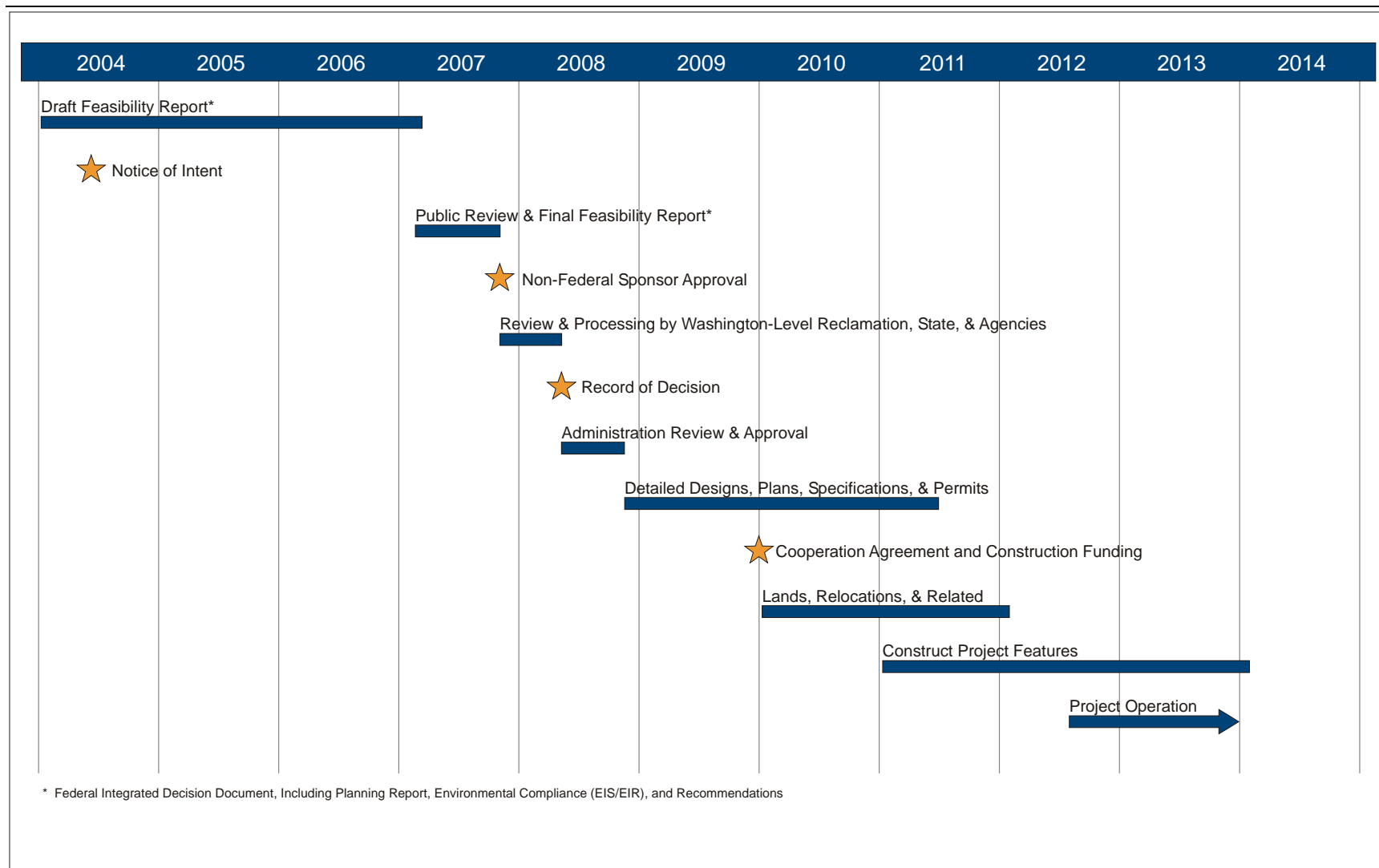


Figure XI-2 – Shasta Lake Water Resources Investigation project schedule.

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